

Essentials

- 1.5m x 1.8m fabric
- 22" concealed zip
- Lightweight fusible interfacing, 20cm

Cutting guide

Front facing: cut one each on the fold in fabric and fusible interfacing

Back neck facing: cut one pair each in fabric and in fusible interfacing

Front bodice: cut one on fold

Back bodice: cut one pair

Sleeve: cut two pairs

Back peplum: cut two pairs

Front peplum: cut two on fold

1.5cm seam allowance used throughout unless otherwise specified

sew a peplum top

1 Go online to www.sewmag.co.uk/templates to download and print the pattern. Cut out the pattern pieces as indicated in the cutting guide. Attach interfacing to the wrong side of the back neck facing and front facing. Position and pin the back to the front, right sides together. Stitch together and neaten the outer edge.

2 Stitch darts into the front bodice, from the base of the darts to the marked points on the pattern. Repeat for the back bodice pieces, pressing the darts towards the centre front and back. Neaten the edges of the front darts, side seams and shoulder seams. Position the front and back bodice pieces with right sides together, then match, pin and stitch the shoulder seams together. Press the seam allowances open.

3 Lay the bodice out flat with the joined neck facing on top, right sides together. Match the necklines together then pin and stitch around. Clip the seam allowances around the curve and under-stitch the neckline, stopping 4cm from each centre back edge.

4 Matching the side seams together, pin and stitch from the base of the bodice up to the underarms. Press the seam open. Divide the sleeves into two sets: pin and stitch the underarm seam together for each piece, then press the seam open. Turn one sleeve to the right side, then slide inside the corresponding sleeve so the right sides are facing (one will be the lining). Match the underarm seams together, pin, then stitch around the base of the sleeve. Press the seam allowance into the lining sleeve, clip the seam and under-stitch from the right side of the sleeves. Fold the lining inside the sleeve.

5 Turn the sleeves to the right side. Stitch a row of gathering stitches around the head of the sleeves, starting at the front notch and finishing at the back one. Pull the gathering threads up slightly, then place the sleeve into the armhole of the top. Match the side and underarm seams of the sleeves together; match the notch in the centre of the sleeve to the end of the shoulder seam, then adjust the gathers to fit the armhole



Flatter your figure African peplum top

Step outside and wear this garment with a smile!

We love the flattering style of the peplum top, and Amanda Walker's exclusive design is no exception. The garment features a concealed zip and gathered cap sleeves that skim the arm – it will soon become your go-to choice for a feelgood outfit! We used a vibrant fabric with oversized leaf motifs, the perfect print for injecting colour into your wardrobe.



of the top. Pin, stitch in place, and neaten the seam around the armhole.

6 Divide the peplum pieces into two sets (one will be the lining). Join the centre back seams as far as the zip notch and clip the seam allowance at these points. Lay the front peplum over so the right sides of the fabric are facing. Pin the side seams together on both sets and stitch. Press all seams open. Lay the two sets on top of each other, right sides facing. Pin the lower edge and stitch together with a 1cm seam allowance. Turn the lining inside, tease out the seam and press flat.

7 Pin the peplum to the bodice, matching the side seams and centre fronts together; you may need to clip the waistline curve to match the seams. Stitch in place

and neaten the seam allowance. Neaten the edges of the centre back opening. Stitch the concealed zip into the back opening using a zipper foot or concealed zipper foot. Fold and press the seam allowance along the two sides of the back opening. Open out the seam allowance and with the right side of the fabric facing, place the opened zip face down, matching the teeth to the crease line in the seam allowance (see Sew Advice panel on the next page). Pin in place and carefully thread the zip pull through to the right side at the top of the centre back seam. Pull up to close. Slipstitch the neck facing in place by hand, fold in the seam allowance along the edge of the zip, stitch then secure the facing to the ends of the shoulder seams.

SEW *advice*

SEW A CONCEALED ZIP

If using a concealed zipper foot, place the teeth of the zip into the groove; as you stitch, the foot will uncurl the teeth and the stitching will be placed right alongside the teeth. If you are stitching with a normal zipper foot you will need to uncurl the teeth with your fingertips. It is impossible to stitch to the end of a concealed zip, so leave roughly 3cm of the zip base unstitched. Back stitch and then sew the other side of the zip in place.

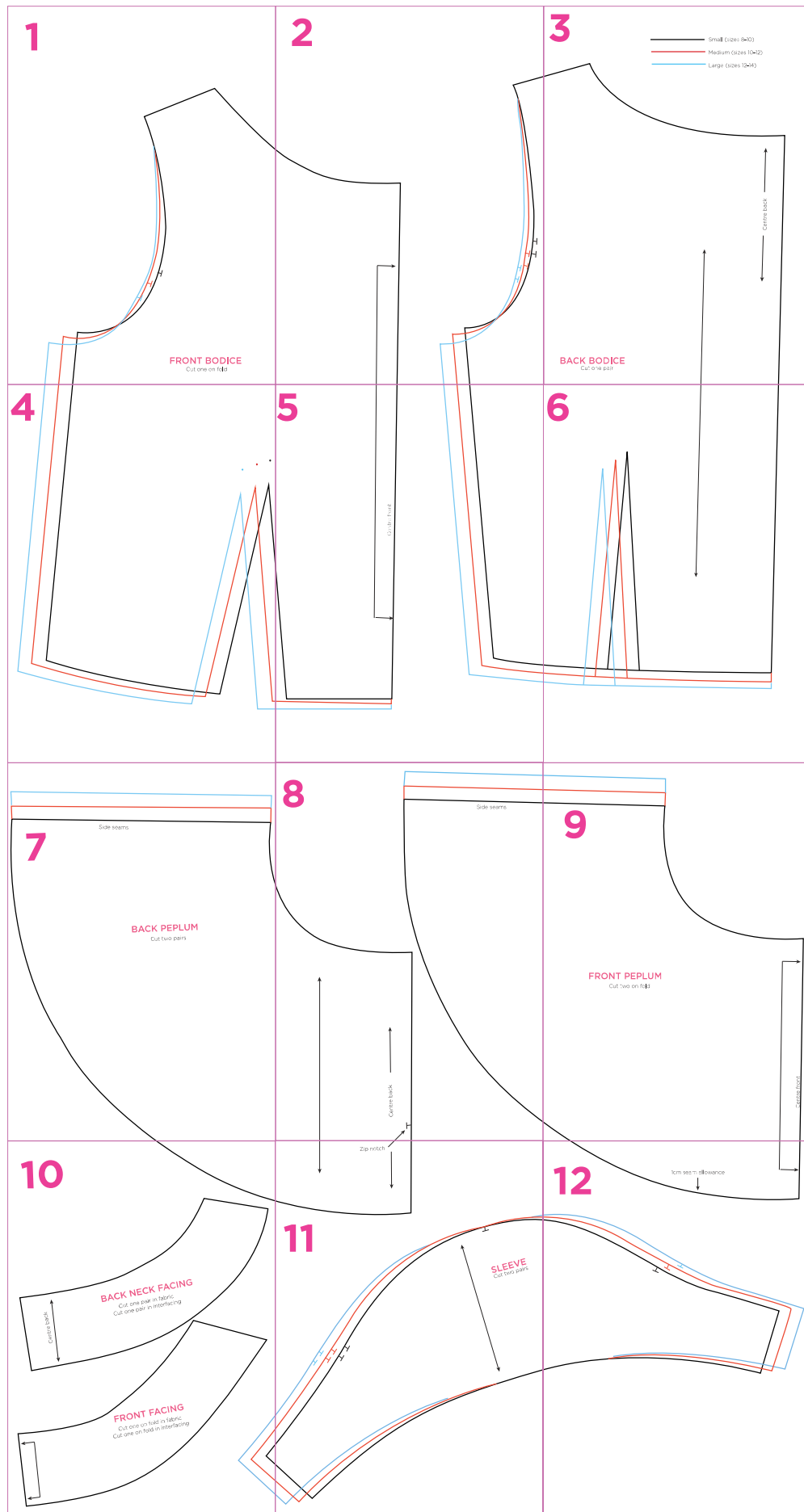


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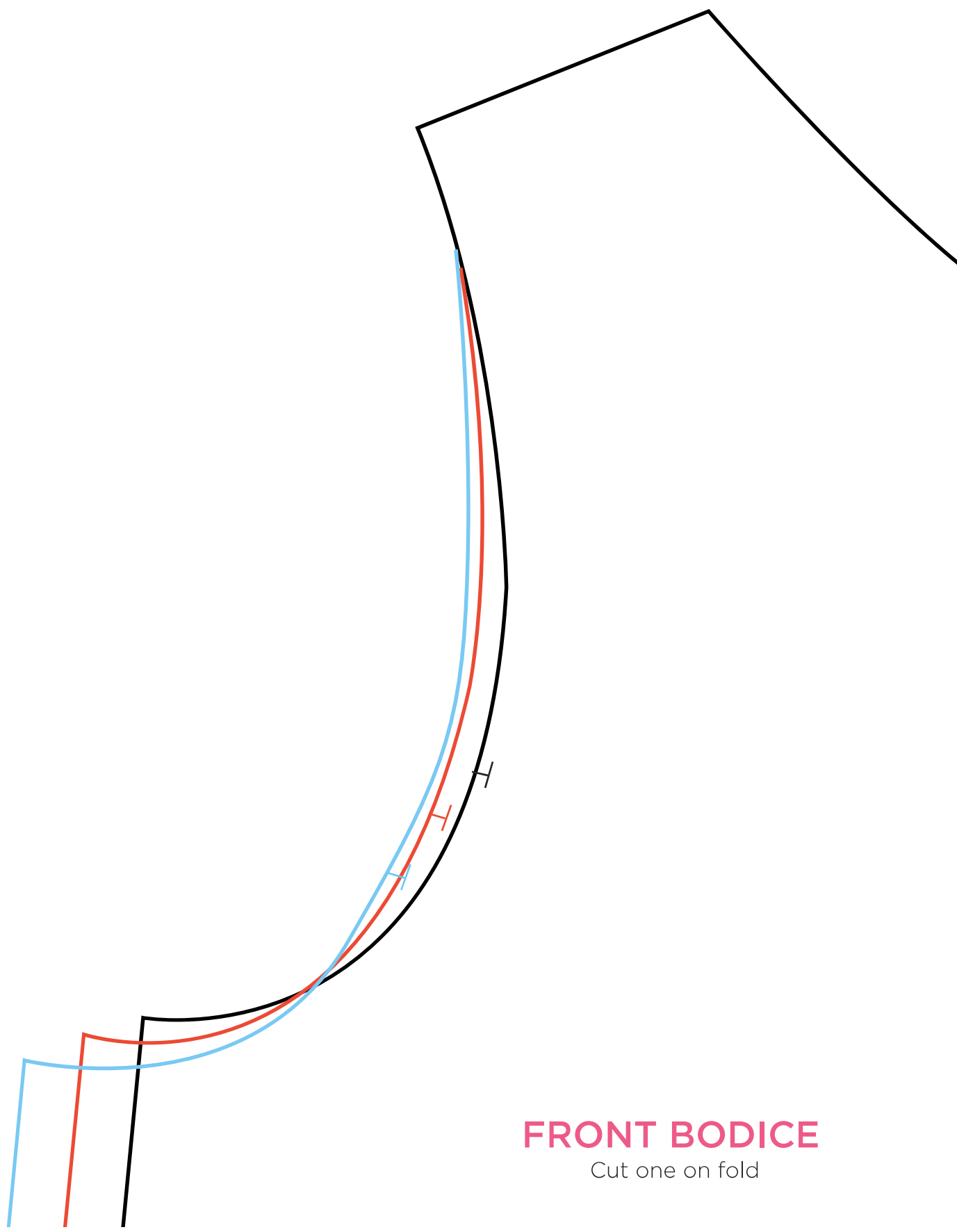


Oak leaf

We picked up this vibrant print at The African Fabric Shop. Browse the range at www.africanfabric.co.uk



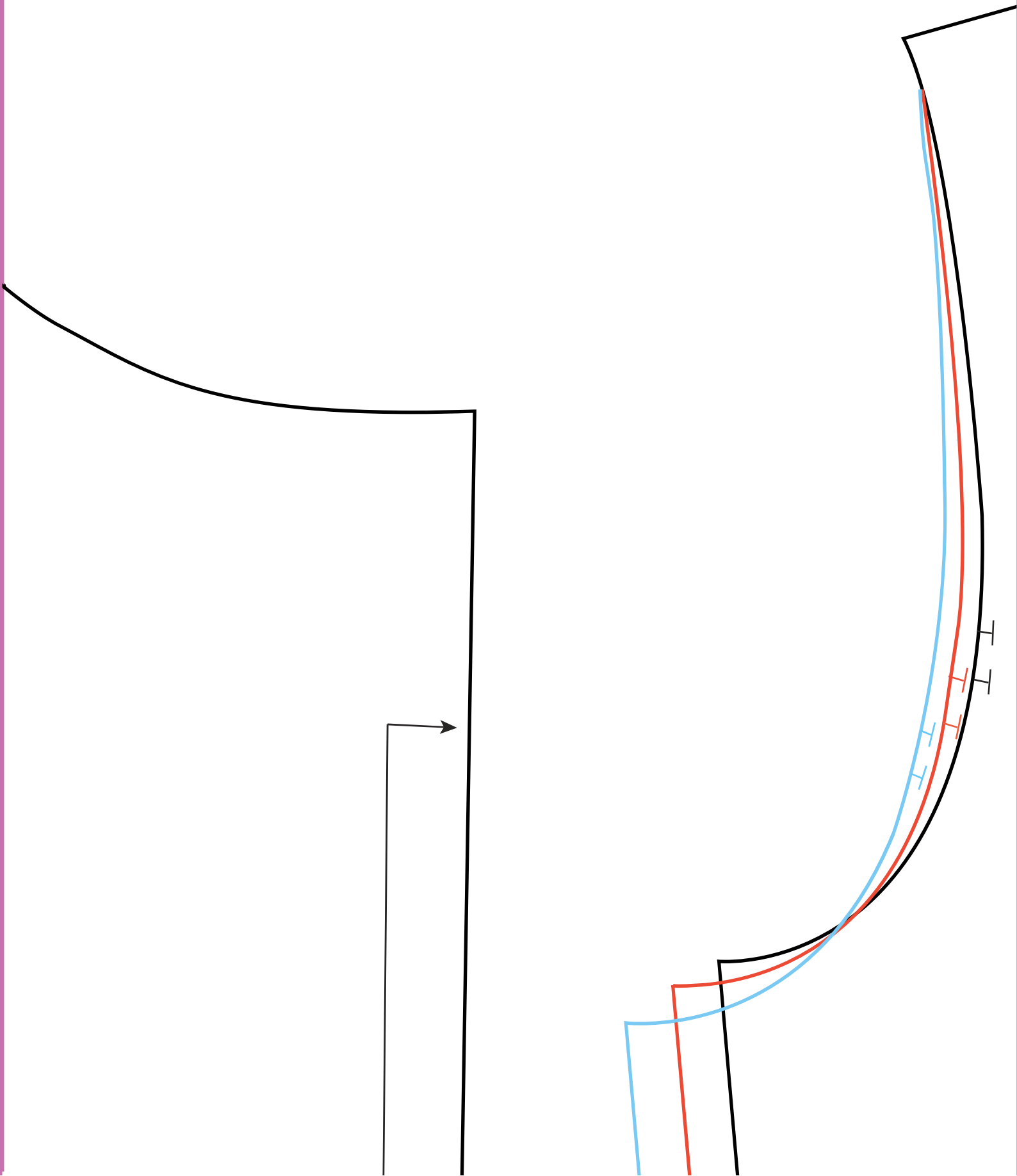
1



FRONT BODICE

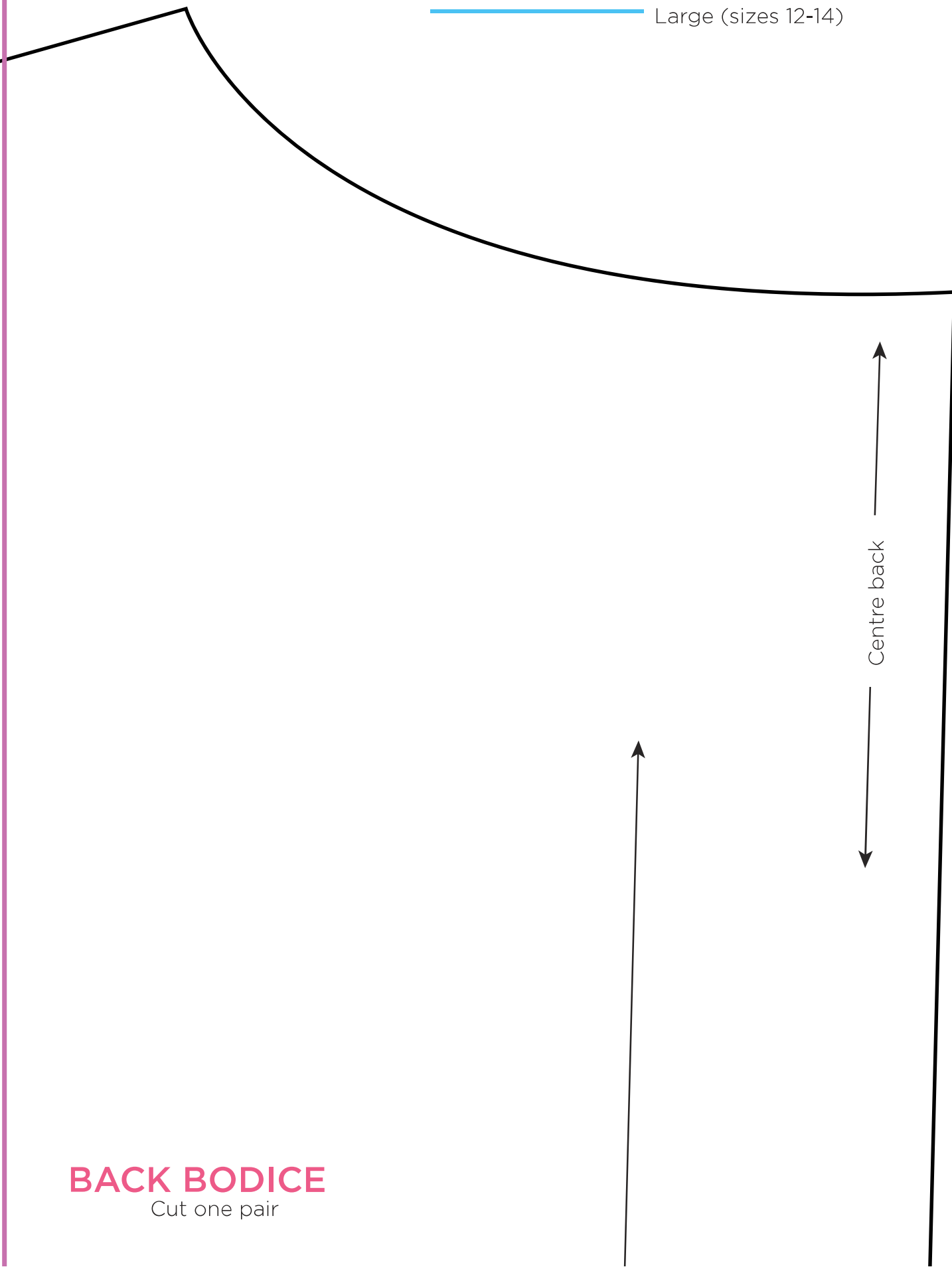
Cut one on fold

2



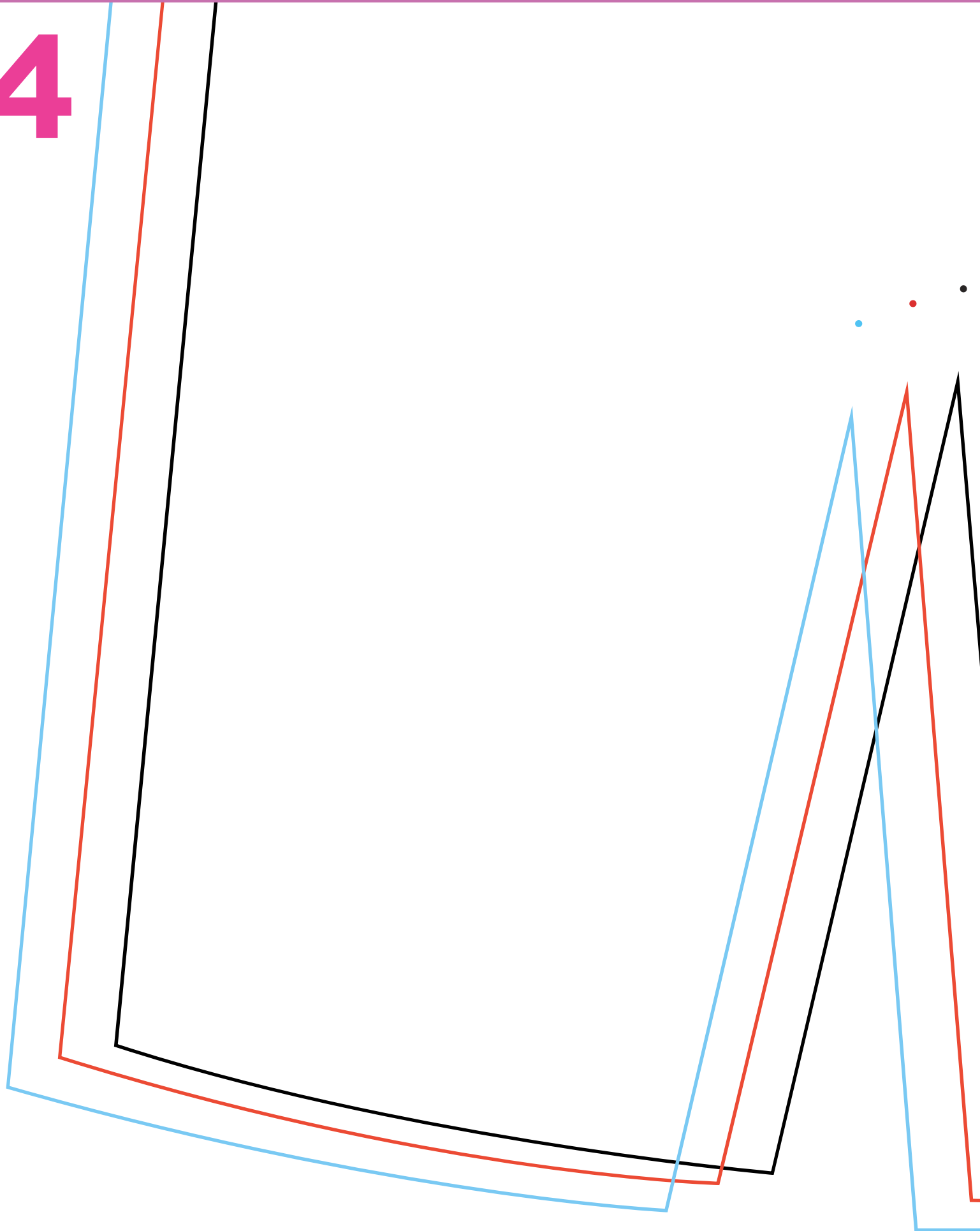
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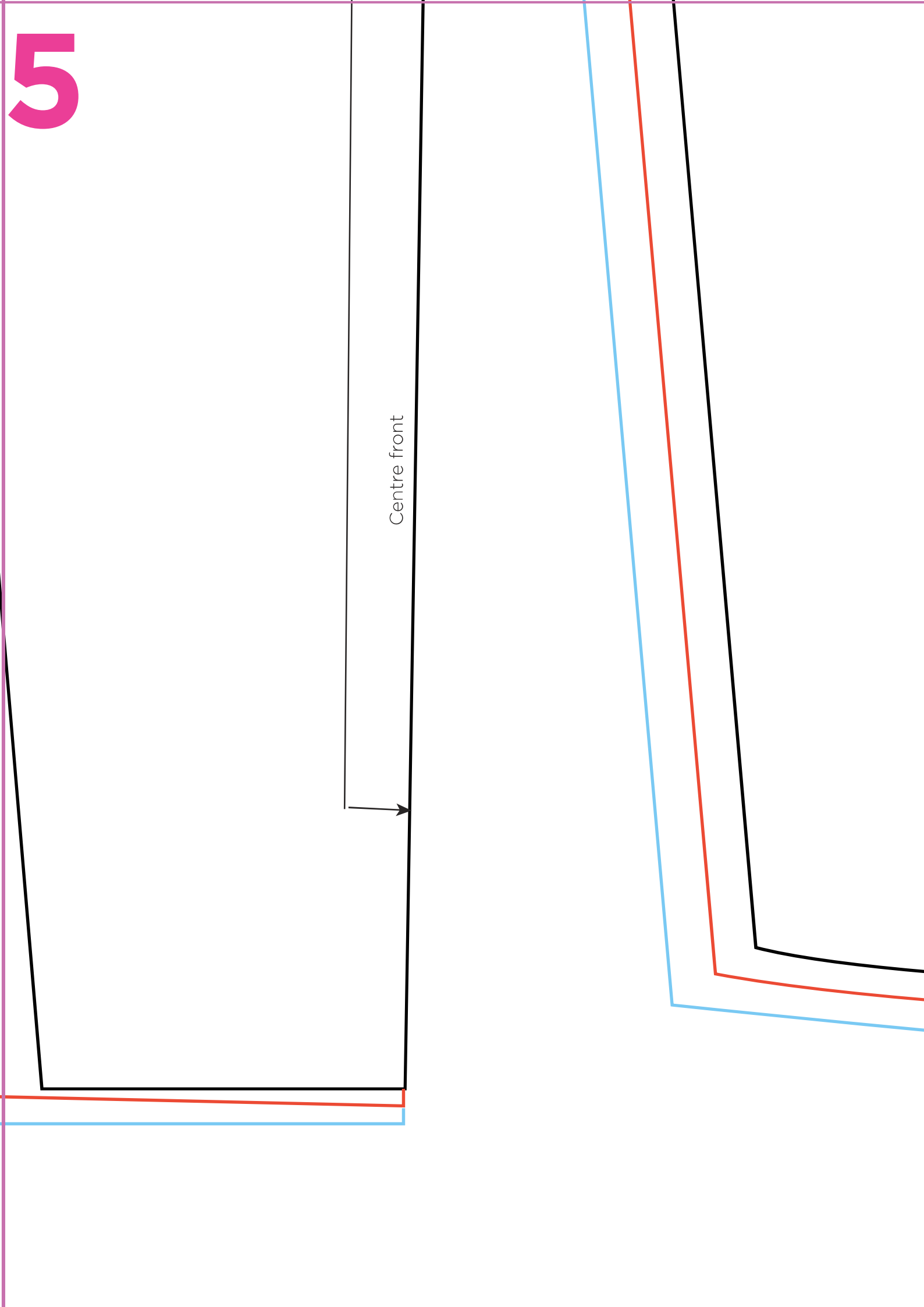
- Small (sizes 8-10)
- Medium (sizes 10-12)
- Large (sizes 12-14)



BACK BODICE
Cut one pair

4

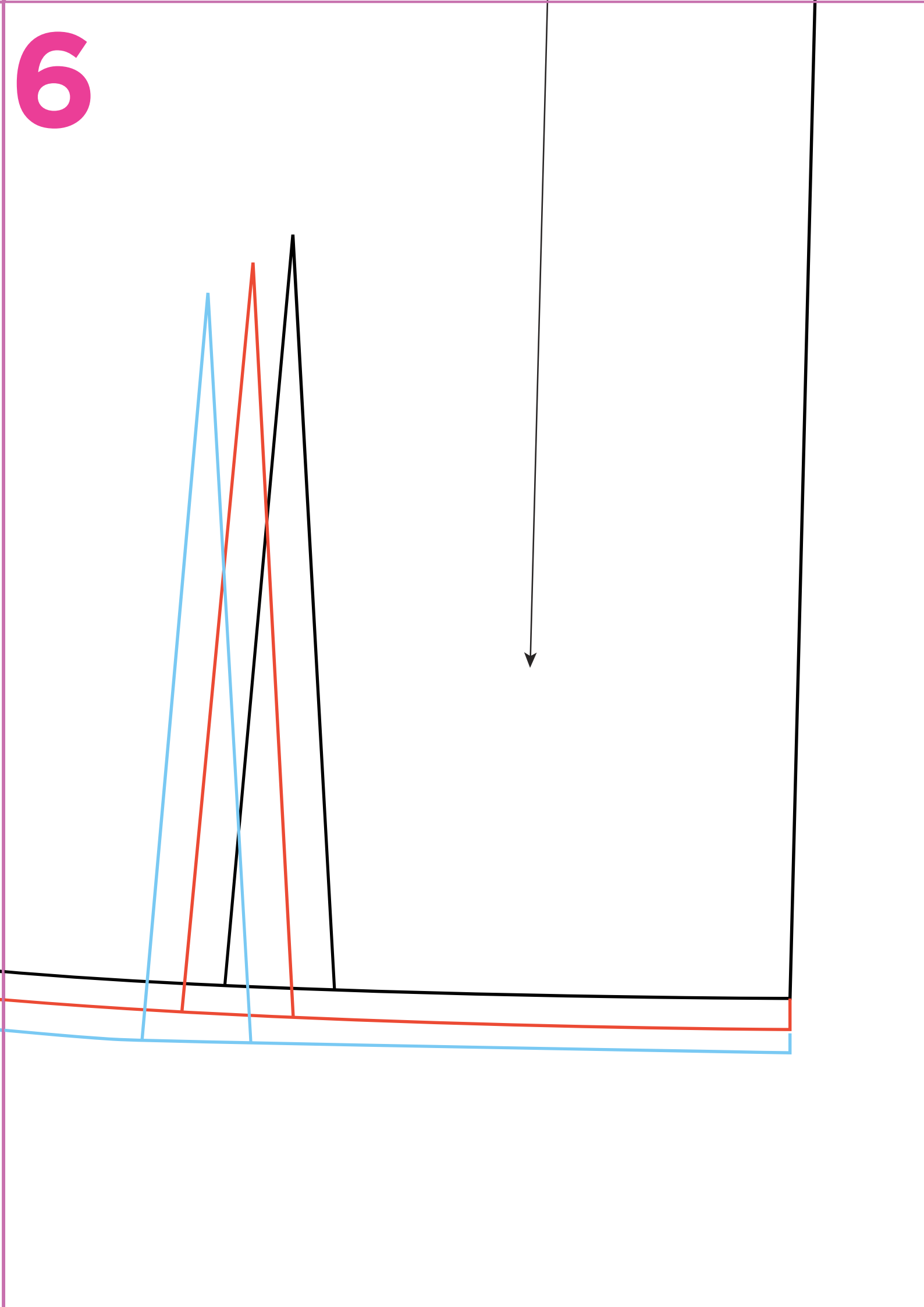




5

Centre front

6



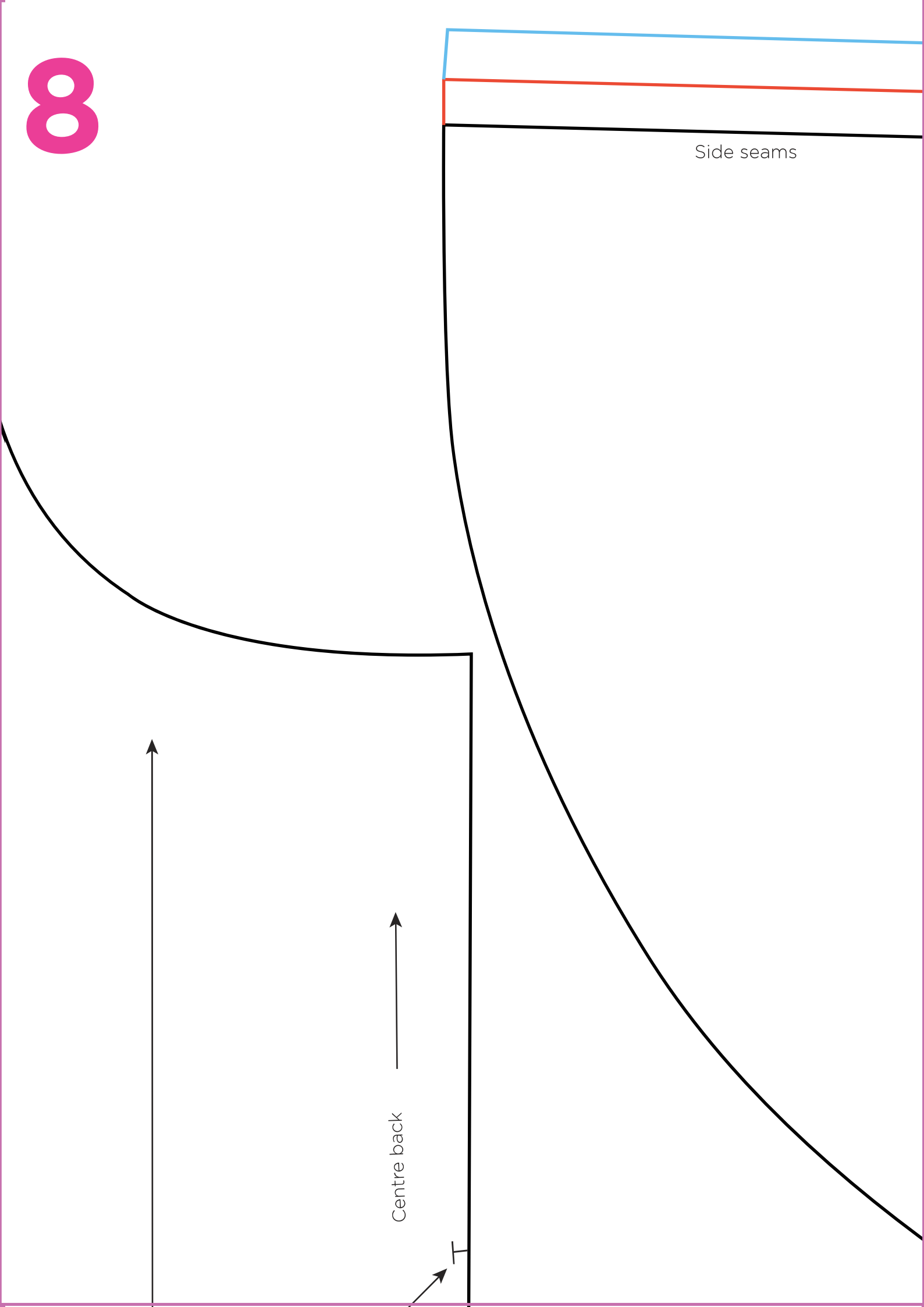
7

Side seams

BACK PEPLUM

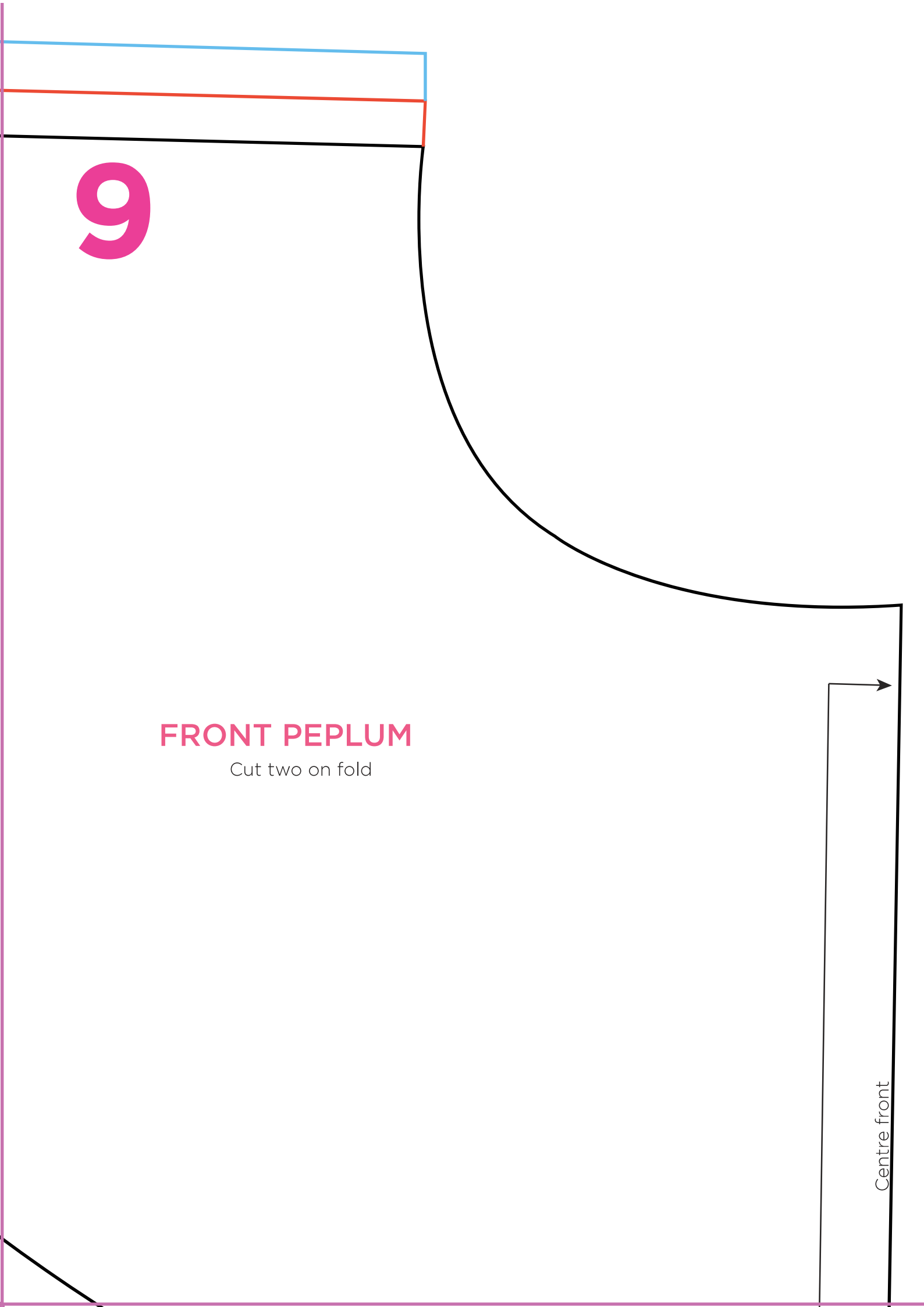
Cut two pairs

8



Side seams

Centre back



A technical pattern diagram for a front peplum. The pattern is shown on a light gray background. It features a large, curved, flared shape representing the peplum. The top edge of the pattern is marked with a blue line, a red line, and a black line. A large pink number '9' is positioned in the upper left corner of the pattern. The pattern is labeled 'FRONT PEPLUM' and 'Cut two on fold'. A vertical line on the right side is labeled 'Centre front' with an arrow pointing to it. A small black line segment is visible at the bottom left corner.

9

FRONT PEPLUM

Cut two on fold

Centre front

10

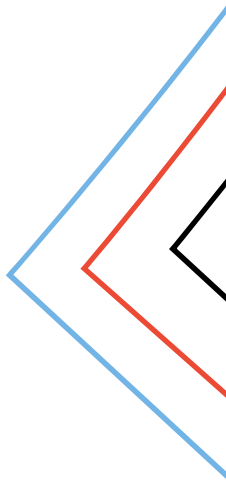
BACK NECK FACING

Cut one pair in fabric
Cut one pair in interfacing

Centre back

FRONT FACING

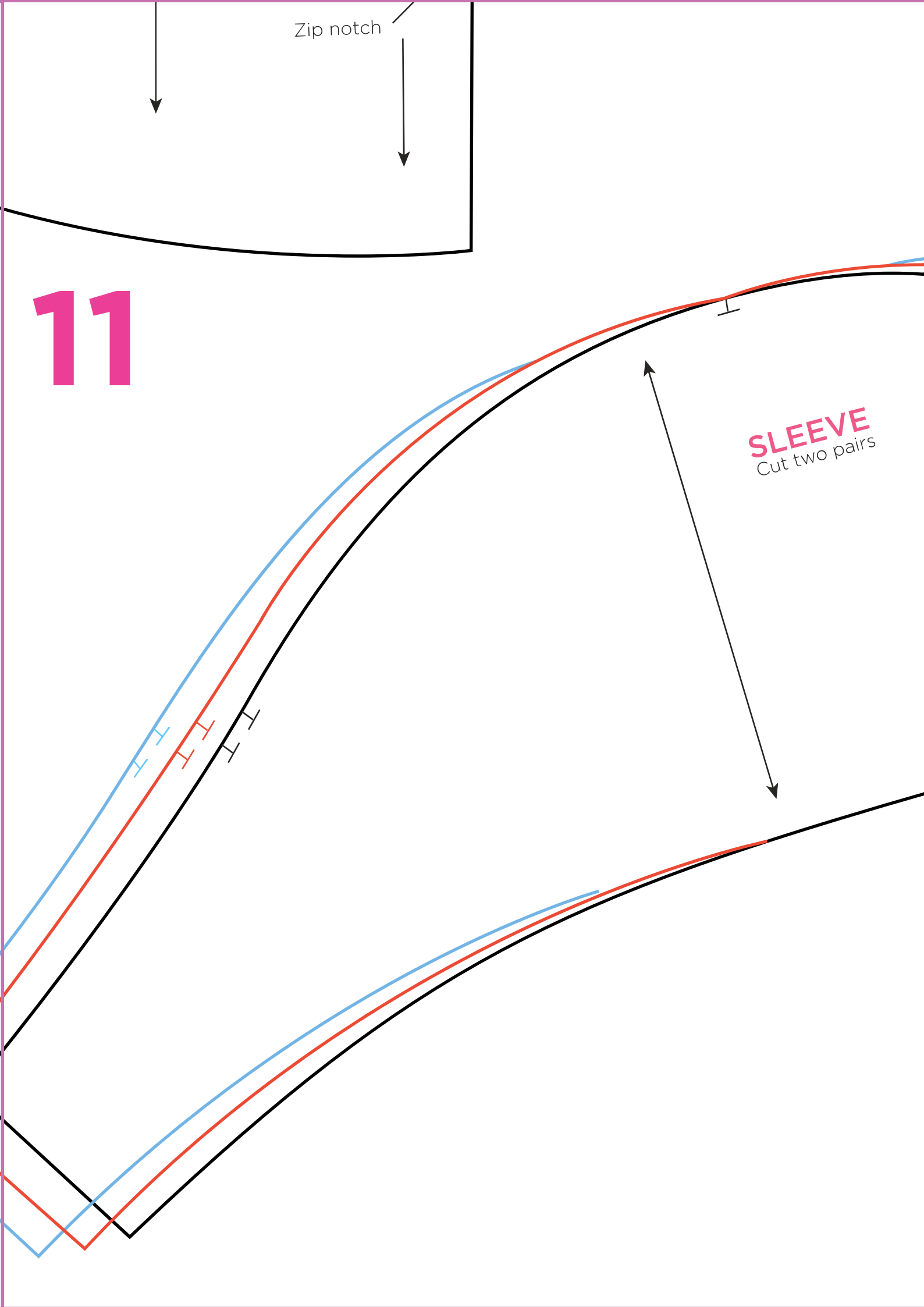
Cut one on fold in fabric
Cut one on fold in interfacing



Zip notch

11

SLEEVE
Cut two pairs



12

1cm seam allowance

